

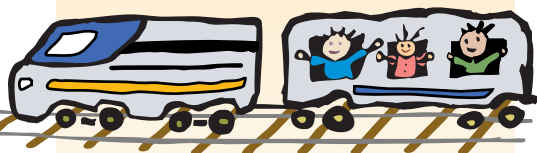
MAKING TRACKS

It's Summer And Kids Ride FREE!

When you take your kids on an Amtrak California train you never have to hear those dreaded words, "Are we there yet?" That's because the kids are much too busy having a good time to be bored. Summertime means school is out and families can take advantage of Amtrak California's Kids Ride Free program.

From June 1 through August 26, children 15 years and under ride free Monday through Thursday when accompanied by an adult paying a full or senior fare. Two children may ride free with each adult or senior passenger. The senior (over 62 years) discount is 15% year-round. It's an ideal way for grandparents and grandchildren to relax and enjoy fun times together.

continued inside



SAN JOAQUINS CELEBRATE 25TH ANNIVERSARY

On the first weekend in May, some 2,000 visitors celebrated 25 years of Amtrak California *San Joaquin* service at eight stations along the Bay Area and Central Valley route. The public had an opportunity to walk through a California Passenger Coach and Dining Car, see exhibits on the history of the *San Joaquin* route, pick up brochures and timetables on the service, and enter a drawing for train travel and other great prizes.

Amtrak began *San Joaquin* service on March 6, 1974 with a single round-trip between Oakland and Bakersfield. Today there are five daily roundtrips including direct service between Bakersfield and Sacramento as well as between Bakersfield and the San Francisco/Oakland Bay Area.

In the picture above, crowds line up to walk aboard the train. And, shown below, Junior Miss contestants Valerie Payne of Shafter (left) and Cassie White of Delano, welcomed the special Amtrak California train in Bakersfield by cutting



a ribbon across the entrance to the public walk-through. Other Junior Miss contestants who met the special train included Melissa Miller of Bakersfield and Andrea Hacker, of Sanger, representing Fresno County. Junior Miss contestants from the Central Valley will ride *San Joaquin* trains to and from the Junior Miss contest to be held in Santa Rosa in August.

Caltrans

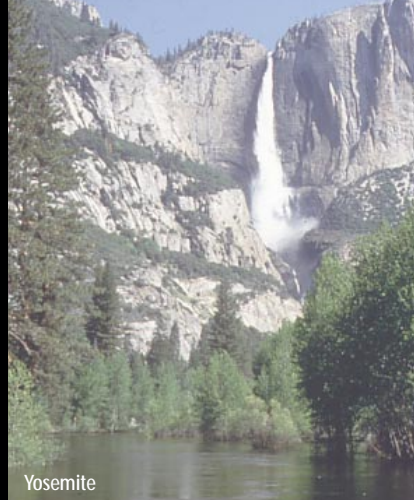
State of California
Gray Davis, Governor

Business, Transportation
& Housing Agency
Maria Contreras-Sweet,
Secretary

Department of Transportation
Jose Medina, Director

MAKING TRACKS

Bulk Rate
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit #1185
Sacramento, CA



Yosemite



San Diego



Santa Barbara

Amtrak Value Saver Packages = More Savings

Here's the way to take the hassle out of summer travel: Book a relaxing, comfortable and economical value-saver package tour on an Amtrak California train. There are many tours to choose from in both Northern and Southern California. Make your selection, then call the tour operator listed. That's it. The tour operator takes care of Amtrak rail transportation, hotel, entrance to attractions, and more. All for one low price.

Pick Up an Amtrak California Fun Guide

To help you plan your next California train getaway, stop by any Amtrak staffed station and pick up a free copy of the *California Fun Guide*. It's filled with coupons for savings on tours, shopping, hotels, car rentals and admission fees at major California attractions. Then, jump aboard an Amtrak California train and you're off to a fun vacation and some great savings.

Disneyland & Southern California Holiday

From the lights of Main Street to the many adventure rides, there's something for everyone at Disneyland, "The Happiest Place on Earth." The tour price includes: roundtrip transportation on Amtrak California's *San Joaquin* and *San Diegoan*; hotel for two nights in the Disneyland area; roundtrip transfers by private taxi or shuttle between the Amtrak station and the hotel; admission to Disneyland for one day; lunch or dinner at

Disneyland; transfer between hotel and Disneyland's Main Gate; and all taxes and service charges.

You may stay an extra night at your hotel to spend more time at Disneyland, or see another Southern California attraction. If you choose to go to another attraction, the narrated tour will include roundtrip transfer from the hotel to the attraction and admission. The other Southern California attractions include:

Universal Studios: Go "behind the scenes" to see how movies and television shows are made. Experience extraordinary rides, shows and attractions.

Knott's Berry Farm: From a real ghost town to daredevil rides to musical extravaganzas, Knott's Berry Farm has something for everyone in the family, including a slice of Mrs. Knott's famous boysenberry pie.

Stars' Homes Tour: A luxury mini bus tour of the magnificent homes of the rich and famous in Beverly Hills, Bel-Air Estates and Hollywood. You'll cruise Hollywood Boulevard and Sunset Strip, visit Mann's Chinese theatre and the Walk of Fame and browse the shops of exclusive Rodeo Drive.

Catalina Island: Take a quick trip across the Pacific aboard Catalina Express. Time to explore Botanical Garden, Wrigley Memorial and shop in a variety of boutiques and stores.

Sea World, San Diego: There's nonstop entertainment at this exciting undersea attraction, including marine life shows, Shamu the Killer Whale, acrobatic dolphins, shark exhibits and the Penguin Encounter.

San Diego Zoo: Ride the zoo tram as your guide introduces you to a variety of animals in pleasant, natural surroundings. There's a botanical garden and a children's zoo to add to your adventure.

Magic Mountain: Six Flags Magic Mountain features six different roller coasters. For the less adventurous, there is a Grand Carousel, Gold Rusher Mine Train, bumper cars and other shows and attractions.

For full information and complete tour prices contact Key Holidays at 1-800-783-0783. Tour packages from San Francisco or Sacramento start as low as \$239 per person based on double occupancy.

Yosemite

One of the most beautiful places on earth, Yosemite is easily accessible in the comfort of Amtrak California's *San Joaquin* train and connecting VIA Adventures Motorcoach. A one-day tour and an overnight tour is available from Northern California, and a three-day, two-night tour is available from Southern California. Take the *San Joaquin* train to Merced, where you are met by the VIA Adventure motorcoach for the trip through the Gold Country hills to Yosemite Valley. The tour includes a narrated tram-ride through the valley to experience the grandeur of El Capitan, Half Dome, Bridalveil Fall and Glacier Point. Overnight accommodations are at Yosemite Lodge. *Call Key Holidays at 1-800-783-0783. Tour packages from San Francisco or Sacramento start as low as \$199 per person based on double occupancy.*



ummer Travel Fun

San Diego

With its mild climate, miles of sunny beaches, a world class zoo and Sea World's Wild Arctic adventure, San Diego is a perfect weekend getaway. Take Amtrak California's *San Diegan* to San Diego. Selected hotels are within a few blocks of the Amtrak Station. Nearby are Seaport Village, Coronado Ferry, Tijuana Trolley and Horton Plaza Shopping Center. Your tour includes roundtrip rail fare, one night hotel accommodations, roundtrip transfer between train and hotel, Old Town Trolley sightseeing, discount coupons for Seaport Village shops and restaurants and all taxes. *For full information and tour rates, contact Farr Discovery Tours at 1-800-225-8728. Tour packages from Los Angeles start as low as \$129 per person based on double occupancy.*

Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara offers summertime fun with uncrowded beaches, outdoor sports, beautiful parks, rolling hills, theater, museums, historic buildings and attractions. The tour includes roundtrip rail transportation aboard Amtrak California's *San Diegan*; one night hotel accommodations; 90-minute trolley tour; discount offers at shops and restaurants at Paseo Nuevo Shopping Center; continental breakfast; a city map and all taxes. *Call Farr Discovery Tours at 1-800-225-8728. Tour packages from Los Angeles start as low as \$149 per person based on double occupancy.*

Solvang

Visitors are drawn to Solvang's passion for Danish architecture, cuisine and culture as they stroll the flower-lined streets and visit shops and restaurants. All are within easy walking distance of hotels. During the summer and fall months there is a horse drawn carriage ride around the town, festivals and theatre. The tour includes roundtrip train travel to Santa Barbara aboard Amtrak California's *San Diegan*, with connecting motor-coach to Solvang; one-night hotel

accommodations; one hour carriage ride or wine tasting. *Call Farr Discovery Tours at 1-800-225-8728. Tour packages from Los Angeles start as low as \$139 per person based on double occupancy.*

Marine World

Holiday Inn, located directly across the street from New Marine World Theme Park offers Amtrak passengers a \$99.95 special rate, single or double occupancy. Kids 12 and under are free and an additional adult is just \$10.00 more. The rate includes complimentary breakfast. Take Amtrak California's *San Joaquin* to Martinez and catch the Thruway Motor-coach Connection directly to the Holiday Inn. Enjoy the Park's incredible rides, exciting shows and amazing animals. See Bengal tigers, killer whales, man-eating sharks, dolphins and polar bears.

Call Holiday Inn at 1-800-HOLIDAY or 707-644-1200 and ask for the Amtrak special rate. Limited rooms available at this rate. Reservations are first-come, first serve. Must present your Amtrak ticket at front desk at the time of check-in.

Whether you're planning an overnight tour or a one-day trip, Marine World offers Amtrak passengers a special discount admission rate: \$18 for adults and seniors and \$13 for children 4-15 years (kids under 4 years are free). Take your Amtrak ticket to Main Gate Guest Relations for your special admission ticket.

Kids Ride Free *continued*

On Fridays and the weekends, and on Monday, July 5, children 2-15 travel at half price. Kids under two travel free every day.

No need to lose precious travel time finding a restaurant that everyone can agree on. On the train, the answer to "I'm hungry," or "I'm thirsty" is a quick trip to the Dining Car or Café Car.



Amtrak California trains provide a relaxed, casual atmosphere where kids and their folks can talk, play games or cards (many seats are arranged face-to-face with tables), look out the window, or get up and walk around. For families headed for the outdoors, there are bike racks, and enough room in the overhead compartments to stow day packs and sporting gear.

So, now's the time to take that train trip you've always planned. Pick one of California's great vacation destinations or visit family and friends. When you get there you just might hear, "Oh no, are we there already?" Then you can remind the kids that they still have the train trip back to look forward to.

Just check with Amtrak on fares and schedules. Some restrictions may apply.



Come to Railfair '99

For ten days — June 18-27 — Railfair '99, one of the largest and most elaborate railroad festivals in the world, will take place at the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento.

Amtrak California will have a prominent exhibit and California rail equipment will be on display. Come visit us in the Museum railroad roundhouse to learn more about rail passenger service in California as we enter the 21st Century.

California State Railroad Museum is located in Old Sacramento at Second and I Streets, just a short walk from the Sacramento Amtrak Station. It is Sacramento's most popular visitor destination. More than 570,000 people visit the Museum annually to see its collection of 105 locomotives and cars and over 40 stimulating exhibits that tell the fascinating story of railroad history from 1850 to the present.

Railfair '99 will feature visiting locomo-

tives and railroad cars, train rides, live entertainment and performances, unique exhibits, living history demonstrations, and children's activities. It will tell the story of growth, progress and westward expansion. Through workers, equipment, music, experiences and heritage, Railfair '99 will show the many ways in which railroads have shaped our lives, economy and culture. This is an event the whole family will enjoy.



Sacramento Grew Up with the Railroad

The city got its start in 1839 when John Sutter settled at the confluence of the American and Sacramento Rivers. When gold was discovered in 1848 just 30 miles east of Sacramento, tens of thousands of people came to seek their fortune. In 1850 California became a state and four years later Sacramento became its capital.

In 1856, the 22-mile-long Sacramento Valley Railroad, first railroad west of the Rockies, was built to transport mining equipment and supplies to gold seekers. Engineer Theodore Judah envisioned a transcontinental railroad with Sacramento as the western terminus. He received funding from four partners, C. P. Huntington, Mark Hopkins, Charles Crocker and Leland Stanford, and from the Pacific Railroad Act, proposed to Congress by President Abraham Lincoln in 1862. Renamed Central Pacific Railroad, its tracks moved eastward into the Sierra, while Union Pacific Railroad extended its tracks westward. On May 10, 1869, the two railroads met at Promontory, Utah, and California was linked by rail to the rest of the nation.

Old Sacramento, where California State Railroad Museum is located, is a National Landmark. A 27-acre riverfront district with 53 historic buildings, it is the city's tourism hub, with a wide variety of shopping, dining and entertainment in an Old West atmosphere. Pick up a walking tour map and brochure at the Visitor Center, located in the Fratt Building, Second and K Streets, a beautifully ornamented building dating back to 1870.

California Railroads Roll Out Rail Safety Campaign



More than a dozen passenger and freight railroads and transit agencies in the state are taking the message of rail safety to the public through a variety of means, including advertising, outreach and mock crash events.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is sponsoring an

advertising program that includes newspaper ads, outdoor billboards and television and radio spots. The campaign is designed to educate the public about the dangers of walking or jogging on or near railroad tracks and ignoring railroad crossing gates and trespassing signs.

Special enforcement days, where law enforcement officers cite motorists who drive around crossing gates, have been held in Richmond and in Fresno, with others planned throughout the state. Mock crashes, staged train-car accidents to bring the message home to high school students, are planned in Chico, San Luis Obispo and Oakland, following a similar success event in Fresno.

Metrolink commuter rail system is focusing on several communities where people are known to trespass on the railroad tracks.

Caltrain, the San Francisco Peninsula Commute Service, plans a poster display in stations featuring railroad employees with their own comments and observations about rail safety. As well, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority plans a safety day for students.

All state rail safety activities are undertaken with the cooperation of California Operation Lifesaver, a 50-member organization formed in 1979 to reduce and ultimately eliminate senseless death and injuries at highway-rail crossings. Trained volunteers work year-round throughout the state to make the public aware of the need for safe behavior at highway-rail crossings or anywhere near private railroad property.